

# **4th Grade ALPS Classroom Expectations Packet**

Welcome to 4th Grade!

I am thrilled to have your child in my 4th grade ALPS class! This year your child will be in a safe and nurturing environment that fosters high academic achievement, emotional well-being, and positive social interactions. As a teacher of gifted students, I recognize that they have advanced cognitive and creative abilities with a greater need for differentiated learning, compacting, and acceleration. I will encourage higher-level thinking, project based learning, STEM activities, and time for independent passion/choice projects.

Reading skills will be strengthened for greater fluency, comprehension, and rate. Writing will include narrative, persuasive, opinion, and informational. Math skills will be developed using our math program: Expressions. Multiplication and division are a big focus along with geometry, elapsed time, fractions, data, measurement, and area/perimeter. Along with core math concepts, we will move beyond the basics and include the development of conceptual understanding with a greater emphasis on problem solving, real world tasks, and critical thinking. Strong math understanding is crucial in order to prepare today's children for tomorrow's world. In addition to math and reading skills, your child will explore exciting units in Science, Social Studies, Geography, PE, Computers, Music, and Art.

## **Communication**

Communication is essential in our classroom. There are several ways you can communicate with me.

- Email - I will be sending home information about upcoming events, field trips, assignment reminders, and more. You are welcome to email anytime you have any questions or need me to know information as well.
  - [kimberly.herbert@jordandistrict.org](mailto:kimberly.herbert@jordandistrict.org)
- Phone - If you need to reach my phone, call the school at **801-280-0238** and then my room is **extension 13462**. I do not always answer my phone when I am teaching or if I am in a meeting so if it is a time sensitive message, or an emergency, feel free to call the office to make sure that I receive the message right away.
- Remind - Please join my classroom Remind. I will be able to send you messages about upcoming events, field trips, assignment reminders, and more. If you are not familiar with this app, you will receive messages from me like you would a text message. You will also be able to send me messages through Remind anytime you want to.
  - Text **@hchh4c** to the number **81010**
  - Sign up online by typing **remind.com/join/hchh4c** into your internet browser
- Planners - I will complete planner sheets with my students everyday so you can both see what we have been working on in class and check to see what assignments they have.
- Take Home Folder - This folder should come home and be brought back to school every day. Students will put any homework, informational papers from the school, returned assignments/tests, permission slips, etc. into the folder, so please be sure to check it every night.

## **Returned Work**

- File box - I have a file box in the classroom where I will return all graded work. Students are welcome to check this on their own everyday, but if they do not, I will have them check their file for papers to bring home once a week.
- Take Home Folder - Students can bring home graded assignments every day, or once a week. I will also periodically send home progress reports and missing work lists so that we can work together to make sure your child is successful and on top of their work.

## **Homework**

Your child will not be assigned “homework” on a regular basis. However, there may be times when assignments may need to be worked on at home.

Practice/Homework - your child may have three types of homework this year including:

- 1) Unfinished class work, when designated by the teacher.
  - a) These assignments would be due the following school day unless designated otherwise.
- 2) Ongoing assignments - these are weekly assignments that should become part of their after school routine.
  - a) Genre Study
    - i) Students in my class will be expected to read and fill out forms for 30 books from different types of genres throughout the school year. I will check for a required amount of books each quarter. All of the assignment specifics and due dates will be gone over in class as well as sent home so everyone will know what is expected for each completed book form.
- 3) Special projects
  - a) Essays
    - i) Will be started in class, but may need to be worked on at home depending on how far into the writing process each child is compared to the due date of the assignment.
  - b) Presentations
    - i) Presentations will always be started in class and students will be given a checklist and rubric to know what is expected of them. They will only need to be finished at home if more than the in class time given is needed to have the presentation ready by the due dates.
  - c) Projects - Specific information and requirements for these and other projects will be sent home when they are closer to happening in the classroom.
    - i) Seen Any Good Math Lately? (SAGML)
    - ii) Art Detectives
    - iii) 30 Book Genre Study

## **Rules/Rewards**

Every student has the right to be educated in a learning environment where he or she feels safe and respected. In fourth grade, every effort is made to be positive when correcting unacceptable behavior. I expect and encourage positive behavior in class. Listed below are our general classroom rules.

### **Classroom Rules**

Be Respectful	Be Responsible	Be Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise your hand for permission to speak.</li><li>• Use an appropriate voice level.</li><li>• Use kind words.</li><li>• Listen when someone is talking.</li><li>• Choose to use kind actions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Raise your hand for permission to leave your seat.</li><li>• Turn in your work on time.</li><li>• Stay on task.</li><li>• Use classroom materials appropriately.</li><li>• Follow directions quickly.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Watch where you are walking.</li><li>• Use purposeful movement during group activities.</li><li>• Keep chair legs on the floor.</li><li>• Hands, feet, and objects to yourself.</li><li>• Keep materials neat.</li></ul>

For following:

- Able to learn more
- Positive classroom community
- Individual rewards
- Whole class rewards

For not following:

- Fall behind in learning
- Loss of privileges
- Think Time
- Parent Contact

## **Library**

Our scheduled library day will be on Tuesday. In order for your child to check out new books, their old books must be brought back on this day.

## **Birthdays**

Birthdays are always a special event and we are excited to celebrate it with your child. If you would like to bring treats, remember that they must be store bought and individually wrapped. Also, we do have a NUT FREE classroom. The best time for birthday treats is right before lunch or at the end of the day. Of course, birthday treats are completely optional.

## **Absent Work**

If a student is absent, it is his/her responsibility to find out what work was missed. Work will generally be due back within two days of the absence, but may be subject to longer extensions as deemed appropriate by myself, depending on the situation and how much school was missed.

## **Electronic Devices**

Electronic devices include, but are not limited to: cell phones, i-Pads, i-Pods/MP3 Players, Kindles, handheld game consoles, etc. As a general rule, please leave these and other like items at home. They cause disruptions and the school will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. There will be designated times when we will ask/allow students to bring in specific devices for research type projects or electronics based class parties. If you feel that it is vital for your child to have their cell phone, please have them check it in with their teacher upon arrival at school each day. Any items that are seen or heard during school hours will be confiscated and it will become the responsibility of a parent to come and collect the item.

### **Toys**

Please keep these and other like items at home. A toy is not necessarily something that you get from a McDonald's happy meal, it can be anything that causes a distraction in the classroom. The school will not be held responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. ONE warning will be given to the student to either take the "toy" home or use it appropriately. If it is seen again, it will be confiscated and kept with the teacher until the end of the year, or parents may arrange an alternate play with the teacher to get it back earlier.

### **Water Bottles**

Students are encouraged to bring a pre-filled water bottle to school. There will be designated times for students to refill them as needed each day. Please be sure that any water bottles that are coming from home are able to completely seal shut to help in preventing spilling as much as possible. Bottles should regularly go home each week to be washed and returned back to school clean.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or concerns. We need to work together as a team to make this a successful year for your child. I am very excited about this year and to see the growth and development of YOUR child!

Best Regards,  
Mrs. Herbert

## **4th Grade ALPS Classroom Expectations Packet - Signature Page**

Please sign and return this page indicating that you have read and understand the information. You will want to keep the other pages of this packet and refer to it throughout the year.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_